To curb the smuggling activities through Samjhauta Express, Government have taken several steps including take over of the immigration at Attari Railway Station by the Bureau of Immigration, dispensing with the services of the coolies at the Attari Railway Station, reduction of duty free allowance of Indians and Pakistanis coming from Pakistan by land route, limiting the baggage to be carried by the passengers to facilitate 100% manual check of the baggage by the security agencies etc. These measures have proved to be effective.

Misuse of diplomatic passports

1278. PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR:
SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there have been instances of misuse of the diplomatic passport issued by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government for contravention of the rules by the erring persons?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Extradition of Plane Hijackers

1279. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have once again taken up with the Pakistan Government the issue of extradition of five hijackers and their accomplices of Indian Airlines plane from Kathmandu in December, 1999; and

(b) if so, Pakistan Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Government have, on several occasions, reminded Pakistan that as a signatory to various International Conventions against Terrorism, as also the Simla Agreement and the Lahore Declaration, Pakistan has an obligation to take into custody the hijackers of IC-814 who are believed to be in Pakistan and to extradite them to India. The matter was also raised during the Summit